

### **DETAILED ACTION**

1. Receipt is acknowledged of applicant's appeal filed on May 06, 2010. Claims 1-7 are pending and an action on the merits is as follows.

### **EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT**

2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Jeffrey Howell on 07/29/2010.

The application has been amended as follows: claim 1, lines 7-9, the phrase "wherein a self-resonant frequency  $f_r$  of the secondary coil, which is measured with the primary coil of the transformer being open, is equal to the driving frequency  $f_d$  or a frequency in the vicinity of the driving frequency  $f_d$ " should be changed to - -a self-resonant frequency  $f_r$  of the secondary coil, which is measured with the primary coil of the transformer being open, is equal to the driving frequency  $f_d$ - -.

### ***Allowable Subject Matter***

2. Claims 1-7 are allowed.
3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Prior art of record fails to disclose or fairly suggest the following limitations “a dielectric barrier discharge lamp lighting device for driving a dielectric barrier discharge lamp having an inner electrode (4) and an external electrode (5, as shown in fig.3), comprising: a self-resonant frequency  $f_r$  of the secondary coil, which is measured with the primary coil of the transformer being open, is equal to the driving frequency  $f_d$  ” in combination with the remaining claimed limitations as claimed in independent claim 1.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled “Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance.”

#### ***Citation of Relevant Prior Art***

4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure:

Shiba US Publication No. 2005/0093478 A1.

#### ***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jianzi Chen whose telephone number is 5712705292. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Thursday 10:00- 5pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Douglas W. Owens can be reached on 5712721662. The fax phone

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number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Jianzi Chen/  
Examiner, Art Unit 2821

/Douglas W Owens/  
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2821  
August 6, 2010